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LETTER DATED 19 JULY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation issued on 11 July 1993 in connection with the resolution of the Supreme Council of the Russian Federation regarding the status of the city of Sevastopol.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Y. VORONTSOV

Annex

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The resolution adopted on 9 July 1993 by the Supreme Council of the Russian Federation regarding the status of the city of Sevastopol departs from the policy followed by the President and the Government of the Russian Federation in upholding Russian interests as regards matters relating to the Black Sea fleet and in maintaining bases for the Navy of the Russian Federation in the territory of Ukraine, in the Crimea and in Sevastopol.

Being emotional and declaratory, this resolution is far from conducive to real solutions and indeed further impedes the already difficult task of reaching a settlement.

Without underestimating the negative consequences of the administrative decisions of the leaders of the former USSR with respect to territorial matters, it must be emphasized again that any problems, however complex they may be, can be settled only through political dialogue, with due regard for the opinions and interests of the various population groups and in strict observance of the treaties and agreements entered into with the Ukrainian side and of the principles of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations.